

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are pending, with claim 1 being independent. Favorable reconsideration of the application in light of the following comments is respectfully solicited.

Specification

The abstract of the disclosure was objected to because of informalities. The abstract has been amended. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

Claims 1-25 were objected to because of informalities. Claims 1-25 have been amended. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103

Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 2001-266760 A (“Shigeo”). Claims 8-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shigeo. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections because Shigeo, at a minimum, fails to describe or suggest a display device that includes, among other features, a flat heat-conductive sheet interposed between a display panel and a casing and between an electronic component and said casing, wherein said heat-conductive sheet has a higher thermal conductivity in a plane thereof than in a thickness wise direction thereof, as recited in claim 1.

Shigeo describes a display device that includes a chassis member 2, PDP 1, a heat radiating plate 5, and a casing 6. Shigeo at Abstract. The casing 6 is formed using high thermal

conducting metal such as aluminum and magnesium alloy, and the casing 6 may serve as the heat radiating plate 5. *See e.g.*, Shigeo at paragraph [0015].

Applicants respectfully submit that the heat-conductive sheet of the instant application is completely distinct from the heat-radiating plate 5 of Shigeo because the heat-conductive sheet of the instant application has an anisotropic thermal conductivity so as to have a higher thermal conductivity in a plane thereof than in a thickness wise direction thereof.

As such, Shigeo fails to describes or suggest a display device that includes, among other features, a flat heat-conductive sheet interposed between a display panel and a casing and between an electronic component and said casing, wherein said heat-conductive sheet has a higher thermal conductivity in a plane thereof than in a thickness wise direction thereof, as recited in claim 1.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1.

Dependent Claims

Under Federal Circuit guidelines, a dependent claim is nonobvious if the independent claim upon which it depends is allowable because all the limitations of the independent claim are contained in the dependent claims, *Hartness International Inc. v. Simplimatic Engineering Co.*, 819 F.2d at 1100, 1108 (Fed. Cir. 1987). Because claim 1 is allowable for the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that all claims dependent thereon are also allowable. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that the dependent claims are allowable based on their own merits by adding novel and non-obvious features to the combination.

For example, Applicants respectfully submit that Shigeo fails to describe or suggest a display device, wherein the first heat transfer means has a first radiator member joined to at least one of said display panel and said electronic component, and a second radiator member joined to said heat-conductive sheet, said first radiator member being configured to radiate heat, said second radiator member being configured to absorb the heat radiated from said first radiator member, as recited in claim 4. For at least this reason and the reasons presented above with respect to claim 1, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 4.

Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that Shigeo fails to describe or suggest a display device, wherein the second heat transfer means has a third radiator member joined to said back member, and a fourth radiator member joined to said heat-conductive sheet, said third radiator member being configured to radiate heat, said fourth radiator member being configured to absorb the heat radiated from said third radiator member, as recited in claim 8.

For at least this reason and the reasons presented above with respect to claim 1, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 8.

Based on the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are patentable over the cited prior art. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejection under §§ 102/103 be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Having fully responded to all matters raised in the Office Action, Applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance, an indication for which is respectfully solicited. If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's

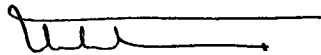
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amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number shown below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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